

# BY LBERT AYSON

NOPSIS OF PRECEDING CHAPTERS. AFTER 1-At the suburban home of Charles the "high financier," he and his broker Gibbs, hatch up a scheme to corner h Street railway stock. They rely upon pport of Dick Horrigan, boss of the oring city, who is coming to discuss Alderman Phelan, the thorn in m's side, whom Wainright is anxious to is also coming. Among the members Dallas and Perry Wainright, and his ry, Thompson, a secretive young man in he financier has implicit confidence. Newman, a neighbor of Wainright, continuance in office depends upon n's favor, requests Wainright's interwith the boss. Another visitor to the at's is Alwyn Bennett, in love with who is calling to ask her about her dengagement to Gibbs. Perry is in love Cynthia Garrison, also a neighbor. If-ia is the daughter of a bank president who ars before the opening of the story was by the dealings of an unnamed dishonest and shot himself. His son thereupon d. Mrs. Bennett congratulates hern the immaculate record of her son's father. Dallas refuses to marry Alwyn she does something worthy of his family . Phelan and Horrigan face each III-Phelan defies Horrigan, Judge is turned down by the boss, but at is the down by the doss out and ight's request Horrigan agrees to reconsist case. Horrigan becomes suspicious of the but Wathright scotts at the idea, and and Wainright make a corrupt deal by the former, for a big consideration, is to from the board of aldermen a pe is worried by the reform movement his power at the coming election and about for a candidate for mayor with a nd. He hits upon Bennett, who has slight political experience. The latter

but warns Horrigan, that, if elected, he boolutely honest and independent.

eft," began the judge, his customary air of pompous nervousness tinged by an almost couciliatory mawner, "I would like to have a little business talk with you if you don't mind disenssing work at

"Not at all. I've had the honor of dancing with three pped an arm of your daughd the least I can do is to repay

sure by you, really?" beamed the judge m the unmarried state of his ast aging girls rested beavily. sure Mrs. Newman will be But this business matter.
won't misunderstand me"-Yourse not," replied Alwyn heart-You and I are too old friends,

ope so; I hope so," conceded Newith growing anxiety in his tone

you have some trouble coming oint." said Alwyn, pitying the evident discomfiture, "and I'm on feel so. You were my fa-lend, and I like to think of you my own best friends. There could be no hesitation in ask hing in my power to grant" emboldened Newman blurted

m a little hard upon this Bor-inchise bill, if you don't mind ing so, Bennett. Conlin't you a them now?"

no, judge. I can't," replied still failing to connect New ith the Wainwright Horrigan and attributing the judge's in-the matter to an anniteur's daphing to abbling in politics. "I can't that fight," he continued. "All franchines are wrong and cular franchine bill is rotten

therly manner that he had often found | successful in argument, "I was in politics long before you were born, and I'm speaking for your own good when I say I deeply regret the stand you've taken in this matter. You objected to the bill in its original form. Almost every change you demanded has been made in it. As the gentlemen who asked me to speak to you said"— He checked himself a minute too

late. The narrowing of Bennett's eyes and the vanishing of the friendly light in the young man's face warned Newman he had made a fatal error.

"So you come to me as an emissary, not as a friend," said Bennett slowly, 'and the 'gentlemen' you come from"-"Are the men who represent all that can make or break your career-capital

and political organization." "In other words, Wainwright and Horrigan?"

"Yes. All they ask is that you remain neutral; that you"-

"That I look the other way while they rob the city?"

"I am an old man, Bennett;" evaded the judge, trying another tack, "and I've seen one rash step wreck many a bright career, just as this will wreck yours. Never antagonize wealth and the organization. The public for whom you sacrifice yourself will forget you in a month. Capital and politics never

"I am not catering to the public. am acting as my own conscience"-

"But this is stubbornness, not conscience. All you have to do is to remain neutral. If you do this I am authorized to promise you-now, listen -to promise you the nomination for governor when your term as"-

"That's the bait, is it?" cried Alwyn angrily. "If I consent to betray my trust I'll get the governorship. bribe is golden, and I don't wonder at Horrigan for offering it. The only thing that sucprises me is that he should have chosen such a man as you for his lackey and go-between."
"'Lackey!' 'Bribe!' 'Go-between!'

echoed the judge in real indignation. "How dare you, sir? This"—
"Isn't it a bribe," insisted Alwyn,

"and weren't you the man chosen to offer it? It will do you no good to bluster or grow indignant. In your heart you know the words I used were deserved. The governorship offer was a bribe, pure and simple, and worthy he modern highwaymen who made it. but that you, a judge-a former friend of my own biameless father-that you should come to me on such a vile errand turns me sick. Heaven help justice and right when our judges can be controlled by a political boss and a roll of bills! That's all! I don't care to go further into the subject!"

Bennett walked away, leaving the little judge to stare after him, pink with wrath, speechless with amazement. In all his sixty years no man had thus laid bare to Newman his own heart. stripped of its garments of respecta bility and self deception. And, as usu al in such cases, now that the truth had been driven home to him. Newman wrathfully denounced it, even to himself, as a lie.

Still flushed and incoherent, he wheeled to face a trio who were just returning from the supper room. They were Dallas, Gibbs and Wainwright.
"Hello!" exclaimed Wainwright in

surprise. "What's the matter with you,

udge? Are you ill?"
"If—if Mrs. Newman should come to know of this," sputtered the judge. glaring from one to the other. "she"-"To know of what?" queried Gibbs.

"What has happened?"
"Happened?" fumed Newman. 'I
have been insulted—grossly, vulgarly

"Insulted, judge?" repeated Dallas By whom?"

"By Alwyn Bennett!" snapped the

judge. "Outrageously"—
"Impossible!" exclaimed Dailas.
"There must be a mistake somewhere. Mr. Bennett Is too well bred to insult any man, much less a man so much

"A gentleman, is he? I should not have believed it. He has insulted me

"I'm not surprised," observed Wain-

I am." announced Dailas.

"Naturally," sneered Wainwright. "If ou can remain on speaking terms with me you can easily overlook any other brutality of his."

"Tell us about it, judge." interposed Gibbs, seeking to avert any further

lash between uncle and niece.
"I went to him," began Newman,
beating a request from—from".

est eyed young girl in such a way as to bring her in his way of thinking. But Wainwright felt no difficulty. His shrewd brain caught at a means of turning the affair to account.

"You see, Dallas," the financier broke in, with a warning glance to Newman, "I begged the judge to intercede for me with Bennett, to ask him to bury the hatchet and let us be friends again for the sake of old times. I thought Judge Newman's age and his high office would compel a certain respect even with a man of Bennett's character. But I was wrong, and I am sorry, judge, for the unjust humiliation I caused you."

"I don't understand," said Dallas, looking in bewilderment from one to the other. "Judge, my uncle sent you to make overtures of peace? And Mr. Bennett refused to"-

"He not only refused, but called Mr. Wainwright a highwayman and"-"But why?" demanded Dallas.

"He pretended to misunderstand what said about the conditions."

"Oh, it was a conditional offer, then' I thought''-

'Certainly there were conditions," cut in Wainwright, again coming to the emissary's rescue. "I asked that forced himself to answer: he take a position of neutrality in regard to this Borough bill. Simply neutral, mind you. Not to change his attitude in its favor, or"

"That was a splendidly fair offer," cried Gibbs enthusiastically.

"So it seemed to me," agreed New man, "but Bennett would not listen when I tried to point out his proper line of duty. He called me a go-between and"-

"Even after you told him we were granting practically all the concessions he had asked in the bill?" queried Gibbs.

"Yes," said Newman. "He must have some motive behind it all. I can't"-"Nonsense?" exclaimed Dallas. "What ulterior motive could be have?"

That is more than I id spositive-"But I do," declared Wainwright, pointing at Dallas. "There are the rea-

"I?" exclaimed Dallas, incredulous

"Explain, please.

you. He knows Gibbs also wishes to marry you. He knows, too, that Gibbs' fortune depends on the success of the Borough franchise. If the bill is beaten, Gibbs will be practically ruined and thus in no position to marry. We've known all along of this reason of Bennett's for

"How dare you, sir?"

He was afraid bade me to tell you. you might think he"-"I don't believe one word of it!" cried Dallas, her big eyes ablaze. "Alwyn Bennett could not stoop to such a

fighting our bill, but Gibbs for-

"No?" said Wainwright. "Then you probably will refuse to believe what I am about to tell you now. I considered Borough stock a safe investment, and I put all your money and Perry's in it. Bennett knows this, and in spite of the knowledge he is trying to kill the franchise even on the certainty of ggaring you and Perry along with Gibbs. If only he can ruin Gibbs he cares nothing about making you and Perry paupers too. That is the sort of man you are defending against your own uncle. I have just learned besides that he has secretly, through his brokers, soid large blocks of Borough stock short. Thus his veto that ruins us will make him a very rich man,"

"It isn't true!" affirmed Dallas in dogged certainty. "Mr. Gibbs, do you confirm this story of my uncle's?"

"Please leave me out of this, Miss Wainwright," answered Gibbs gently. "I prefer to say nothing to prejudice you. When I fight I fight fair."

"Even at the cost of all your money," amended Wainwright. "Gibbs, this is carrying your sense of honor to an absurd point. And Bennett will"-

"Pardon me," broke in Alwyn ing the foyer and going up to "I'm a little late for our dan "Alwyn!" exclaimed Dalle "I'm so glad you came be you did. Now we can o

"Clear what up?" queried Bennett glancing about in suspicion at the three silent men.

"You know Mr. Gibbs is favored in the Borough Street rallway affair." began Dallas. "He told you so at your office that day we were there. Well"-

"Yes, but don't let's discuss business tonight," replied Bennett. "This is our "Walt, please. You knew his fortune



but here is something you didn't know, My uncle says my money and Perry's is all invested in that stock and that if you defeat the bill we will be dependent on Mr. Wainwright's charity. If that is true, you didn't know it, did

Her voice was almost tremulous in its eager, confident appeal, but Bennett

"Yes; it is true, and I knew it." The eager glow died from her eyes. leaving a look of dawning horror.

"And, knowing this-knowing Perry and I shall be made paupers by your

action-you still insist on" "On opposing the bill? Yes. I am sorry, but it is my duty."

"Duty!" sneered Wainwright. "Your duty' was done when you vetoed the bill. That act made your position clear and showed the public how you regarded the measure, so why go on fighting it after"-

'I won't discuss this with you, Mr. Wainwright," interrupted Bennett. "We already understand one another, you and I."

"My uncle says," pursued Dallas, "that you made you? broker secretly sell Borough stock short, knowing the deal would enrich you. Won't you even deny this?"

"You realize what all this foolish stubbornness must mean to me-to all "Willingly," replied her uncle, "if you'll give me a fair hearing. Bennett persist in your opposition?"

"I must," said Bennett. "I can't turn "I must," said Bennett. "I can't turn "I must," he added, dropping

his voice till none but she could "can't you trust me-only till Friday? I'll come to you on Saturday morning and tell you the whole miserable story. I only ask you to wait until then. Please"-

"I see no need of waiting for an ex-planation," retorted Dallas aloud. "I understand everything."

"But you don't understand!" insisted Alwyn. "I"-

"I understand only too well," repeated Dallas. Checking his reply and Ig-

noring the anguished appeal in his eyes, she turned to Gibbs. "I have kept you waiting long for

your answer, Mr. Gibbs," she said, speaking in a level, firm, emotionless voice. "I am prepared to give it to you now-publicly. You have often asked me if I would be your wife. My reply is, 'Yes.'

"Dallas!" gasped Bennett in horrified surprise.

(Continued Next Week)

## Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy, Better Than Three Doctors.

"Three years ago we had three doctors with our little boy and everything that they could do seemed in vain. At last when all hope seemed to be gone we began using Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy and in a few hours he began to improve Today he is as healthy a child as parents could wish for."-Mr. B. J. Johnston Linton, Miss. For sale by Harry Cross

New York is about to deepen Hell Gate, presumably to relieve the congestion of the Great White Way

#### She Likes Good Things

Mrs. Chas. E. Smith, of West Franklin, Maine, says: "I like good things and have adopted Dr. King's New Life Pills as our family laxative medicine, because they are good and do their work without making a fuss about it." These painless purifiers sold at Ed Greene's drug store. 25c.

A legislature in the south wants to abolish flirting. That is what comes of summer sessions

### For Sore Feet

"I have found Bucklen's Arnica Salve to be the proper thing to use for sore feet, as well as for healing burns, sores, cuts, and all manner of abrasions," writes Mr. W. Stone, of East Poland, Maine. It is the proper thing too for piles. Try it! Sold under guarantee at Ed Greene's drug store. 250

If John D. Rockefeller is a stickler for the eternal fitness of things, his forthcoming book will appear in oilcloth binding

## Disagreeable at Home

Lots of men and women who are agreeable with others, get "cranky" at home. Its not disposition, its the liver. If you find in yourself that you feel cross around the house, little things worry you, just buy a bottle of Ballard's Herbine and put your liver in shape. You and everybody around you will feel better for it. Price 50 cents per bottle. Sold by Ed Greene

An Ohio man has tuvented a machin that will do away with typewriter girls That man's wife

# A Weakling

Is the only way to describe the poor child that is afflicted with worms. No matter how much or how often it eats, of us," continued Dallas, "and you still the worms get all the nourishment from the food, the child gets practically none. White's Cream Vermifuge gets back. Oh, Dallas," he added, dropping rid of the worms quickly easily and with no bad afier effects. Price 25 cents a bottle. Sold by Ed Greene

> A Texas physician says that it is impossible to over eat. Doubtless he has reference to the average man's income, however, rather than his physical make-up

# Sick Headache

This disease is caused by a derangement of the stomach. Take a dose of Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablets to correct this disorder and the sick headache will disappear. For sale by Harry Cross

The truth has been stretched concerning the "sheath gown" so a fashion paper avers. A number of necks have been abnormally stretched because of it

# Active at 87

This would be unusual news if men and women would themselves free from rheumatism hes and pains as well as and joints limbe Liniment. Sold by Ed

A Florida town has passed an o nance regulating the speed of airships verhead. "Reform is marching on"

# Had Tetter for Thirty Years

I have suffered with tetter for thirty years and have tried almost countless remedies with little, if any, relief. Three boxes of Chamberlain's Salve cured me. It was a torture. It breaks out a little sometimes, but nothing to what it used to do .- D. H. Beach, Midland City, Ala. Chamberlain's Salve is for sale by Harry Cross

# Baby Morphine Fiends

Are made by all soothing syrups and baby medicines that contain opium and narcotics. McGee's Baby Elixir contains no injurious or narcotic drugs of any kind. A sure and safe cure for disordered stomachs, howels and fretfulness—splendid for teething infants.
Sold by Bd Greene

